I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date indicated below.

#11 CQUERO 411/98



Attorney for Applicant

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Hartford, Connecticut, February 27, 1998

Hon. Assistant Secretary and Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Applicants and their attorney have become aware of the following publication cited in a corresponding foreign prosecution:

German Patent No. 27 24 031

Japanese Patent Application No. 49-101476

Japanese Patent Application No. 60-31850

Japanese Patent Application No. 60-5253

03/06/1998 GDUCKET 00000074 08629974 02 FC:126 240.00 0 In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97 (c) (2), the Applicants hereby submit the above publications for consideration by the Examiner. The publications are cited on the enclosed PTO form 1449 and a copy of the publication and an English language abstracts are provided.

The above listed Japanese references were previously submitted in a second Information Disclosure Statement submitted in the above-referenced case and dated October 1, 1997. They are resubmitted in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement for the Examiner's convenience and to ensure consideration thereof by the Examiner.

A check for the fee specified in § 1.17(p), namely, \$240.00, accompanies this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. No additional fees are considered due in connection with this submission; however, please charge any additional fees or credit any excess in fees to our Deposit Account No. 13-0235.

This statement is not to be interpreted as a representation that the cited publications are material, that an exhaustive search has been conducted, or that no other relevant information exists. Nor shall the citation of any publication herein be construed *per se* as a representation that such is prior art. Moreover, the Applicants understand that the Examiner will make an independent evaluation of the cited publications.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner indicate the consideration of the enclosed references by returning a copy of the attached form PTO 1449 with initials or other marks.

Respectfully submitted,

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